

# BANKING, RAILWAY, & SHIPPING STATISTICS, IRELAND.

[JUNE, 1892.]

STATISTICS OF DEPOSITS AND CASH BALANCES IN JOINT STOCK BANKS; DEPOSITS IN POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS AND TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANKS; INVESTMENTS IN GOVERNMENT AND INDIA STOCKS; AND BANK NOTE CIRCULATION IN IRELAND, JUNE, 1892; WEEKLY TRAFFIC RECEIPTS OF IRISH RAILWAYS FOR THE FIRST TWENTY-SIX WEEKS OF THE YEARS 1891-92, AND THE AGGREGATE RECEIPTS FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF EACH OF THE YEARS 1887-92; ALSO TONNAGE OF VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED IN THE PORTS OF IRELAND DURING THE YEARS 1881-91.

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Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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DUBLIN:

PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,  
BY ALEXANDER THOM & Co. (LIMITED).

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HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co. (LIMITED), 104, GRAFTON-STREET, DUBLIN; or  
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JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER-STREET, EDINBURGH, and  
90, WEST NILE-STREET, GLASGOW.

1892.

[C.—6763.] *Price 2d.*



# CONTENTS.

	Page.
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS, . . . . .	5
Deposits and Cash Balances in Joint Stock Banks, . . . . .	6
Savings Banks (Post Office), . . . . .	8
Ditto (Trustee), . . . . .	10
Investments in Government and India Stocks, . . . . .	14
Bank Note Circulation, . . . . .	16
Results of Analysis of Banking Statistics Tables, . . . . .	17
Railway Traffic, . . . . .	18
Shipping Statistics, . . . . .	20
Conclusion, . . . . .	23

## TABLES.

I. Deposits and Cash Balances in Joint Stock Banks on 30th June, 1872-92, . . . . .	7
I. (A) Deposits and Cash Balances in Joint Stock Banks on 30th June and 31st December, in the years 1882-91, and on 30th June, 1892, . . . . .	8
II. Estimated Balance in Post Office Savings Banks in Ireland on 30th June, 1872-92, . . . . .	9
II. (A) Estimated Balance in Post Office Savings Banks in Ireland on 30th June and 31st December, in the years 1882-91, and on 30th June, 1892, . . . . .	10
III. Balance due to Trustees of Savings Banks in Ireland, on 30th June, 1872-92, . . . . .	11
III. (A) Balance due to Trustees of Savings Banks in Ireland, on 30th June and 31st December, in the years 1882-91, and on 30th June, 1892, . . . . .	12
IV. Totals of the Balances in Post Office and Trustee Savings Banks on 30th June, 1872-92, . . . . .	13
IV. (A) Totals of the Balances in Post Office and Trustee Savings Banks on 30th June and 31st December, in the years 1882-91, and on 30th June, 1892, . . . . .	14
V. Totals of Government and India Stocks in Ireland on 30th June, 1872-92, . . . . .	15
V. (A) Totals of Government and India Stocks in Ireland on 30th June and 31st December, in the years 1882-91, and on 30th June, 1892, . . . . .	15
VI. Average Bank Note Circulation of the Six Banks of Issue in Ireland in June 1882-92, . . . . .	16

TABLES.—*continued.*

Page

VI. (A)	Average Bank Note Circulation of the Six Banks of Issue in Ireland in June and December, in the years 1882-91, and in June, 1892, . . . . .	17
VII.	Weekly Railway Receipts in Ireland for the first twenty-six weeks of the years 1891 and 1892, respectively, . . . . .	19
VIII.	Railway Traffic Statistics, first twenty-six weeks of each of the years 1887-92, . . . . .	19
IX.	Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared in the Ports of Ireland, during the years 1881-91, . . . . .	21
X.	Number and Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared in each of the Ports in Ireland during 1891, . . . . .	23

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(JUNE, 1892).

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TO

HIS EXCELLENCY LAWRENCE, EARL OF ZETLAND,

*&c., &c., &c.,*

LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR OF IRELAND.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have the honour to submit to your Excellency the following Tables and remarks relative to Banking, and to investments in Government and India Stocks upon which dividends are payable at the Bank of Ireland, together with information concerning the weekly traffic receipts of the Irish Railways during the half year ended 30th June, 1892 ; and an abstract of the principal railway statistics of Ireland for the first half of each of the six years 1887-92. The Tables on these subjects are in continuation of those previously issued by this Department.

In addition to these I have, as in the years 1890 and 1891, included Tables with reference to the tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared at each of the Irish Ports.

The information comprised in the first series of Tables consists of the total of the deposits and cash balances in the Joint Stock Banks of Ireland on the 30th of June, 1892, and on the corresponding date in each preceding year since the year 1872 inclusive, compiled from confidential returns furnished by the authorities of the various banks

with their usual courtesy ; the balance of deposits remaining in Post Office and Trustee Savings Banks on the 30th of June of each year since the year 1872 inclusive, derived from official sources ; together with the amount of Government and India Stocks, on which dividends are payable at the Bank of Ireland, kindly supplied by the Governor of the Bank ; and the average bank note circulation of the six banks of issue in Ireland in the month of June since 1882, compiled from the *Dublin Gazette*. Tables are also inserted affording half-yearly comparisons for the ten years 1882-91 and the first half of this year under each of the heads referred to above.

The Tables comprising the returns of the weekly traffic receipts of the Irish Railways have been compiled from data for which I am indebted to the authorities of the various Railway Companies.

Returns with reference to the tonnage of Ships entered and cleared at Irish Ports have been kindly furnished by the Board of Customs, and were specially prepared for the purposes of this Report by the Statistical Department of that Board.

#### 1. *Deposits and Cash Balances in Joint Stock Banks.*

The deposits and cash balances in Joint Stock Banks in the middle of the year which had gradually increased from £29,223,000 in June, 1886, to £33,700,000 in the corresponding period of 1891 further rose to £34,565,000\* in June of the present year, being an increase of £865,000, or 2·6 per cent., as compared with the amount in the middle of last year (which was the highest amount for June in any of the twenty years 1872-91), and £5,342,000 or 18·3 per cent. over the amount in June, 1886.

\* This amount is exclusive of £2,008,607 Government and other Public Accounts in the Bank of Ireland.

TABLE I.—Showing Deposits and Cash Balances in Joint Stock Banks ;  
compiled from Returns furnished by the several Joint Stock Banks  
in Ireland.\*

DATE.	Amount.	Yearly Increase.	Yearly Decrease.
	£	£	£
1872, 30th June,	27,214,000	1,165,000	—
1873, "	28,194,000	980,000	—
1874, "	29,859,000	1,665,000	—
1875, "	31,815,000	1,956,000	—
1876, "	32,815,000	1,000,000	—
1877, "	32,746,000	—	69,000
1878, "	31,745,000	—	1,001,000
1879, "	30,191,000	—	1,554,000
1880, "	29,350,000	—	841,000
1881, "	28,289,000	—	1,061,000
1882, "	30,667,000	2,378,000	—
1883, "	31,725,000	1,058,000	—
1884, "	30,072,000	—	1,653,000
1885, "	29,240,000	—	832,000
1886, "	29,323,000	—	17,000
1887, "	29,339,000	116,000	—
1888, "	30,310,000	971,000	—
1889, "	31,205,000	895,000	—
1890, "	33,061,000	1,856,000	—
1891, "	33,700,000	639,000	—
1892, "	34,565,000	865,000	—

\* The names and the dates of foundation of the Banks, the combined statistics of which are included in Tables I. and I. (A) are as follows :—

Name.	Estab-lished.	Name.	Estab-lished.
Bank of Ireland, . . .	1783.	National Bank, . . .	1835.
Northern Banking Company, . . .	1824.	Ulster Bank, . . .	1836.
Hibernian Bank, . . .	1825.	Royal Bank of Ireland, . . .	1836.
Provincial Bank of Ireland, . . .	1825.	Munster & Leinster Bank, . . .	1835.
Belfast Banking Company, . . .	1827.		

A concise account of the conditions under which these various Banks were established will be found in Dillon's "History and Development of BANKING IN IRELAND." *Dublin, Alexander Thom & Co.; London, Egingham Wilson, & Co., and Blades, East, & Blades; 1889.*

TABLE I. (A), made out by half years shows the fluctuations which have taken place half yearly during the past ten years. This Table shows that the continuous increase, which commenced in December, 1887, has been maintained.

TABLE I. (A)—Showing amount of Deposits and Cash Balances in Joint Stock Banks, at the undermentioned dates, compiled from Returns furnished by the several Joint Stock Banks in Ireland.

DATE	Amount	Increase	Decrease
	£	£	£
1882, 30th June	30,667,000	506,000	—
„ 31st December,	32,746,000	2,079,000	—
1883, 30th June,	31,725,000	—	1,021,000
„ 31st December,	31,340,000	—	385,000
1884, 30th June,	30,072,000	—	1,268,000
„ 31st December,	30,627,000	555,000	—
1885, 30th June,	29,240,000	—	1,387,000
„ 31st December,	29,370,000	130,000	—
1886, 30th June,	29,223,000	—	147,000
„ 31st December,	30,172,000	949,000	—
1887, 30th June,	29,339,000	—	833,000
„ 31st December,	29,771,000	432,000	—
1888, 30th June,	30,310,000	539,000	—
„ 31st December,	30,979,000	669,000	—
1889, 30th June,	31,206,000	226,000	—
„ 31st December,	32,968,000	1,763,000	—
1890, 30th June,	33,061,000	93,000	—
„ 31st December,	33,825,000	764,000	—
1891, 30th June,	33,700,000	375,000	—
„ 31st December,	34,532,000	832,000	—
1892, 30th June,	34,565,000	33,000	—

## 2. Savings Banks.

The balances of deposits in Savings Banks consist of two groups—those in the Post Office Savings Banks, which are set out in Table II. and Table II. (A), and those in Trustee Savings Banks, shown in Table III. and Table III. (A). It will be observed from Table II. that the steady increase in the deposits in the Post Office Savings Banks which had been observed for several years, still continues.



At the end of June of this year, the estimated amount in the Post Office Savings Banks in Ireland stood at £4,069,000, as compared with £3,878,000, for the corresponding period of 1891, showing an increase of £191,000, or 4·9 per cent., and being higher than the balance at any previous period since the foundation of these Banks.

TABLE II.—Showing Estimated Balances, at the undermentioned dates, in Post Office Savings Banks in Ireland; compiled from Returns furnished by the Controller, Post Office Savings Bank Department.

DATE.	Amount.	Yearly Increase.	Yearly Decrease.
	£	£	£
1872, 30th June,	789,000	91,000	—
1873, "	824,000	35,000	—
1874, "	875,000	51,000	—
1875, "	951,000	76,000	—
1876, "	1,066,000	115,000	—
1877, "	1,211,000	145,000	—
1878, "	1,296,000	85,000	—
1879, "	1,374,000	78,000	—
1880, "	1,481,000	107,000	—
1881, "	1,645,000	164,000	—
1882, "	1,832,000	187,000	—
1883, "	2,002,000	170,000	—
1884, "	2,150,000	148,000	—
1885, "	2,325,000	175,000	—
1886, "	2,592,000	267,000	—
1887, "	2,802,000	210,000	—
1888, "	3,128,000	326,000	—
1889, "	3,372,000	244,000	—
1890, "	3,585,000	213,000	—
1891, "	3,878,000	293,000	—
1892, "	4,069,000	191,000	—

Table II. (A) shows by half years, during the past ten years, the steady increase in the deposits in the Post Office Savings Banks. The increase in June, 1892, as compared with the estimated balance in December, 1891, was £103,000.

A Table showing the distribution of the balances in Post Office Savings Banks in Ireland according to counties has usually been given in connection with these Statistics; but it is to be regretted that on the present occasion the information for the year 1891 is not available; the Table is therefore necessarily omitted.

TABLE II. (A)—Showing Estimated Balance, at the undermentioned dates, in Post Office Savings Banks in Ireland; compiled from Returns furnished by the Controller, Post Office Savings Bank Department.

DATE	Amount.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
1882, 30th June, . . .	1,832,000	109,000	—
„ 31st December, . .	1,926,000	94,000	—
1883, 30th June, . . .	2,002,000	76,000	—
„ 31st December, . .	2,052,000	50,000	—
1884, 30th June, . . .	2,150,000	98,000	—
„ 31st December, . .	2,224,000	74,000	—
1885, 30th June, . . .	2,325,000	101,000	—
„ 31st December, . .	2,438,000	113,000	—
1886, 30th June, . . .	2,592,000	154,000	—
„ 31st December, . .	2,703,000	111,000	—
1887, 30th June, . . .	2,802,000	99,000	—
„ 31st December, . .	2,932,000	130,000	—
1888, 30th June, . . .	3,128,000	196,000	—
„ 31st December, . .	3,239,000	111,000	—
1889, 30th June, . . .	3,372,000	133,000	—
„ 31st December, . .	3,462,000	90,000	—
1890, 30th June, . . .	3,585,000	123,000	—
„ 31st December, . .	3,723,000	138,000	—
1891, 30th June, . . .	3,878,000	155,000	—
„ 31st December, . .	3,966,000	88,000	—
1892, 30th June, . . .	4,069,000	103,000	—

Table III. shows the amount of deposits on the 30th June 1872–92, in Trustee Savings Banks, from which it

appears that a decrease of £14,000 has taken place in June, 1892, as compared with the corresponding period of 1891.

TABLE III.—Showing the Balances due to Trustees of Savings Banks in Ireland by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, at the undermentioned dates ; compiled from Returns furnished by the Comptroller-General, National Debt Office, London.

DATE.	Amount.	Yearly Increase.	Yearly Decrease.
	£	£	£
1872, 30th June, .	2,250,000	99,000	—
1873, „	2,131,000	—	119,000
1874, „	1,976,000	—	155,000
1875, „	2,005,000	29,000	—
1876, „	2,108,000	103,000	—
1877, „	2,225,000	117,000	—
1878, „	2,208,000	—	17,000
1879, „	2,116,000	—	92,000
1880, „	2,068,000	—	53,000
1881, „	1,980,000	—	83,000
1882, „	2,038,000	58,000	—
1883, „	2,064,000	26,000	—
1884, „	2,072,000	8,000	—
1885, „	2,022,000	—	50,000
1886, „	1,994,000	—	28,000
1887, „	2,030,000	36,000	—
1888, „	2,012,000	—	18,000
1889, „	2,028,000	16,000	—
1890, „	2,035,000	7,000	—
1891, „	1,972,000	—	63,000
1892, „	1,958,000	—	14,000

Table III. (A) gives information by half-years for the Trustee Savings Banks, and shows that there was a decrease of £8,000 in June, 1892, as compared with December, 1891.

TABLE III. (A)—Showing the Balances due to Trustees of Savings Banks in Ireland by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, at the undermentioned dates; compiled from Returns furnished by the Comptroller-General, National Debt Office, London.

DATE.	Amount.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
1882, 30th June, .	2,038,000	—	4,000
„ 31st December,	2,078,000	40,000	—
1883, 30th June, .	2,064,000	—	14,000
„ 31st December,	2,060,000	—	4,000
1884, 30th June, .	2,072,000	12,000	—
„ 31st December,	2,097,000	25,000	—
1885, 30th June, .	2,022,000	—	75,000
„ 31st December,	1,981,000	—	41,000
1886, 30th June, .	1,994,000	13,000	—
„ 31st December,	2,007,000	13,000	—
1887, 30th June, .	2,030,000	23,000	—
„ 31st December,	2,043,000	13,000	—
1888, 30th June, .	2,012,000	—	31,000
„ 31st December,	2,029,000	17,000	—
1889, 30th June, .	2,028,000	—	1,000
„ 31st December,	2,042,000	14,000	—
1890, 30th June, .	2,035,000	—	7,000
„ 31st December,	1,973,000	—	62,000
1891, 30th June, .	1,972,000	—	1,000
„ 31st December,	1,966,000	—	6,000
1892, 30th June, .	1,958,000	—	8,000

In order to show in a combined form the progress of the accumulation of small savings in Banks in Ireland, Tables IV. and IV. (A) have been constructed. Table IV. shows a considerable increase in savings, the total amount in the Savings Bank in Ireland being £6,027,000 in June, 1892, as compared with £5,850,000 for the corresponding period of the year 1891. This is an increase of £177,000, or 3 per cent.

TABLE IV.—Showing the Totals of the Balances in Post Office and Trustee Savings Banks, given separately in Tables II. and III.

DATE.	Amount.	Yearly Increase.	Yearly Decrease.
	£	£	£
1872, 30th June,	3,039,000	190,000	—
1873,       "	2,955,000	—	84,000
1874,       "	2,851,000	—	104,000
1875,       "	2,956,000	105,000	—
1876,       "	3,174,000	218,000	—
1877,       "	3,436,000	262,000	—
1878,       "	3,504,000	68,000	—
1879,       "	3,490,000	—	14,000
1880,       "	3,544,000	54,000	—
1881,       "	3,625,000	81,000	—
1882,       "	3,670,000	245,000	—
1883,       "	4,066,000	196,000	—
1884,       "	4,222,000	156,000	—
1885,       "	4,347,000	125,000	—
1886,       "	4,585,000	239,000	—
1887,       "	4,832,000	246,000	—
1888,       "	5,140,000	308,000	—
1889,       "	5,400,000	260,000	—
1890,       "	5,620,000	220,000	—
1891,       "	5,850,000	230,000	—
1892,       "	6,027,000	177,000	—

Table IV. (A) shows the amount of small savings, by half years, for the past ten years, and demonstrates that the deposits in Savings Banks in Ireland increased steadily and continuously.

[TABLE IV. (A.)

TABLE IV. (A).—Showing the Totals of the Balances in Post Office and Trustee Savings Banks, given separately in Tables II. (A) and III. (A).

DATE.	Amount.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
1882, 30th June, .	3,870,000	105,000	—
„ 31st December,	4,004,000	134,000	—
1883, 30th June, .	4,066,000	62,000	—
„ 31st December,	4,112,000	46,000	—
1884, 30th June, .	4,222,000	110,000	—
„ 31st December,	4,321,000	99,000	—
1885, 30th June, .	4,347,000	26,000	—
„ 31st December,	4,419,000	72,000	—
1886, 30th June, .	4,586,000	167,000	—
„ 31st December,	4,710,000	124,000	—
1887, 30th June, .	4,832,000	122,000	—
„ 31st December,	4,975,000	143,000	—
1888, 30th June, .	5,140,000	165,000	—
„ 31st December,	5,268,000	128,000	—
1889, 30th June, .	5,400,000	132,000	—
„ 31st December,	5,504,000	104,000	—
1890, 30th June, .	5,620,000	116,000	—
„ 31st December,	5,696,000	76,000	—
1891, 30th June, .	5,850,000	154,000	—
„ 31st December,	5,932,000	82,000	—
1892, 30th June, .	6,027,000	95,000	—

### 3. *Investments in Government and India Stocks.*

From Table V. it is seen that the amount of Government and India Stocks on which dividends are payable at the Bank of Ireland was, in June, 1892, £26,042,000. compared with £26,609,000 in June, 1891, being a decrease of £567,000, or 2·1 per cent., following a decrease of £908,000 in the year ended 30th June, 1891, as compared with the previous year.

Table V. (A), made up by half-years, shows that there has been an increase amounting to £258,000, or 1 per cent., in June, 1892, as compared with the termination of the previous half-year.

TABLE V.—Showing the Totals of Government and India Stocks held in Ireland at the undermentioned dates; compiled from Returns furnished by the Governor of the Bank of Ireland.

DATE.	Amount.	Yearly Increase.	Yearly Decrease.
	£	£	£
1872, 30th June, . . . . .	35,756,000	—	171,000
1873, " . . . . .	34,968,000	—	1,809,000
1874, " . . . . .	34,739,000	—	214,000
1875, " . . . . .	33,640,000	—	1,099,000*
1876, " . . . . .	33,424,000	—	216,000
1877, " . . . . .	32,613,000	—	811,000
1878, " . . . . .	31,809,000	—	804,000
1879, " . . . . .	33,037,000	1,228,000	—
1880, " . . . . .	33,113,000	76,000	—
1881, " . . . . .	32,439,000	—	674,000
1882, " . . . . .	31,772,000	—	667,000
1883, " . . . . .	31,592,000	—	240,000
1884, " . . . . .	30,859,000	—	673,000
1885, " . . . . .	30,900,000	41,000	—
1886, " . . . . .	30,484,000	—	416,000
1887, " . . . . .	30,779,000	295,000	—
1888, " . . . . .	28,858,000	—	1,923,000
1889, " . . . . .	28,219,000*	—	637,000*
1890, " . . . . .	27,517,000†	—	702,000†
1891, " . . . . .	26,609,000	—	908,000
1892, " . . . . .	26,042,000	—	567,000

TABLE V. (A)—Showing the Totals of Government and India Stocks held in Ireland at the undermentioned dates; compiled from Returns furnished by the Governor of the Bank of Ireland.

DATE.	Amount.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
1882, 30th June, . . . . .	31,772,000	161,000	—
" 31st December, . . . . .	31,304,000	32,000	—
1883, 30th June, . . . . .	31,532,000	—	272,000
" 31st December, . . . . .	30,942,000	—	590,000
1884, 30th June, . . . . .	30,859,000	—	83,000
" 31st December, . . . . .	30,537,000	—	322,000
1885, 30th June, . . . . .	30,900,000	363,000	—
" 31st December, . . . . .	29,683,000	—	1,211,000
1886, 30th June, . . . . .	30,484,000	795,000	—
" 31st December, . . . . .	30,080,000	—	404,000
1887, 30th June, . . . . .	30,779,000	699,000	—
" 31st December, . . . . .	29,839,000	—	940,000
1888, 30th June, . . . . .	28,858,000	—	981,000
" 31st December, . . . . .	28,663,000*	—	187,000*
1889, 30th June, . . . . .	28,219,000	—	450,000
" 31st December, . . . . .	27,895,000†	—	324,000†
1890, 30th June, . . . . .	27,517,000	—	381,000
" 31st December, . . . . .	26,810,000	—	707,000
1891, 30th June, . . . . .	26,609,000	—	1,000
" 31st December, . . . . .	25,784,000	—	825,000
1892, 30th June, . . . . .	26,042,000	258,000	—

\* India 4 per cent. Stock ceased to bear interest on the 5th October, 1883, and was paid off.

† Reduced 3 per cent. Stock and 3 per cent. Consols ceased to bear interest on the 5th July, 1890.

£11,168 Reduced 3 per cent., and £232,744 12s. 6d. 3 per cent. Consols were paid off.

£6,472 10s. 2d. Reduced 3 per cent., and £236,343 12s. 6d. 3 per cent. Consols, which were unredeemed on the 1st of October, 1892, were converted into 2½ per cent. Consolidated Stock.

4. *Bank Note Circulation.*

Dealing with the Bank Note circulation in a manner similar to that adopted with regard to the question of deposits and cash balances, it will be seen by Table VI. that there has been a decrease of £200,000 in the circulation as compared with the year 1891, the value having fallen from £6,165,000 in June, 1891, to £5,965,000 in the corresponding period of 1892, or at the rate of 3·2 per cent.

TABLE VI.—Showing the average Bank Note Circulation of the Six Banks of Issue in Ireland in June of the years 1882-92; compiled from Accounts published by the Registrar of Bank Returns, pursuant to the Act 8 & 9 Vic., cap. 37.\*

PERIODS	Amount.	Yearly Increase.	Yearly Decrease.
	£	£	£
1882, June, .	7,097,000	652,000	—
1883, " .	6,746,000	—	351,000
1884, " .	6,240,000	—	506,000
1885, " .	5,710,000	—	530,000
1886, " .	5,726,000	16,000	—
1887, " .	5,681,000	—	45,000
1888, " .	5,758,000	77,000	—
1889, " .	6,515,000	757,000	—
1890, " .	6,634,000	119,000	—
1891, " .	6,165,000	—	469,000
1892, " .	5,965,000	—	200,000

The following Statement shows, by half years, the amount of Bank Note circulation in Ireland. It will be observed that in each year of the period covered by the Table, the amount for June has been under that for the preceding December.

\* There are Six Banks in Ireland authorized to issue Notes, the statistics of which are included in this table. The total authorized issue of Notes for these Banks is £6,354,494. Their average issue for the ten years ending with 1883 (according to tables accompanying Lochrane's Banker's and Merchant's Map of Ireland), was £6,891,866, and the average amount of gold and silver held by them was £2,957,830.



TABLE VI. (A).—Showing the Average Bank Note Circulation of the Six Banks of Issue in Ireland, at the undermentioned dates; compiled from Accounts published by the Registrar of Bank Returns, pursuant to the Act 8 & 9 Vic., cap. 37.\*

PERIODS.	Amount.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
1882, June, .	7,097,000	—	379,000
" December, .	8,334,000	1,237,000	—
1883, June, .	6,746,000	—	1,588,000
" December, .	7,235,000	489,000	—
1884, June, .	6,240,000	—	995,000
" December, .	6,748,000	508,000	—
1885, June, .	5,710,000	—	1,038,000
" December, .	6,484,000	774,000	—
1886, June, .	5,726,000	—	758,000
" December, .	6,359,000	633,000	—
1887, June, .	5,681,000	—	678,000
" December, .	5,964,000	283,000	—
1888, June, .	5,758,000	—	206,000
" December, .	6,709,000	951,000	—
1889, June, .	6,515,000	—	194,000
" December, .	7,090,000	575,000	—
1890, June, .	6,634,000	—	456,000
" December, .	7,098,000	464,000	—
1891, June, .	6,165,000	—	933,000
" December, .	6,643,000	478,000	—
1892, June, .	5,965,000	—	678,000

\* See note, p. 16.

The results of the analysis of the foregoing tables are :—

- 1st. That in June, 1892, as compared with the corresponding period in 1891, there was an increase of Cash Balances in the Irish Joint Stock Banks amounting to £865,000.
- 2nd. That there was an increase of £33,000 in Cash Balances in the Irish Joint Stock Banks in June, 1892, as compared with December, 1891.
- 3rd. That there was a net increase in the Deposits in Savings Banks in Ireland in June, 1892, as compared with the same period of 1891, amounting to £177,000.

- 4th. That there was a net increase of £95,000 in the Deposits in Savings Banks in June, 1892, as compared with December, 1891.
- 5th. That there was a decrease in the amount of Government and India Stocks, on which dividends are payable at the Bank of Ireland, of £567,000, in June, 1892, as compared with the same period of 1891.
- 6th. That in June, 1892, there was an increase of £258,000 in the amount of Government and India Stocks, on which dividends are payable at the Bank of Ireland, as compared with December, 1891.
- 7th. That in June, 1892, there was a decrease of £200,000 in the amount of Bank Note circulation, as compared with the corresponding period of 1891.
- 8th. That there was a diminution of Bank Note circulation to the amount of £678,000 in June, 1892, as compared with December of the previous year.

### 5. *Railway Statistics.*

Table VII. gives the receipts of Irish Railways, week by week, for the first half of the year 1892, compared with those for 1891.

A review of the weekly traffic return shows that the total receipts for the first half of this year were below those of the corresponding period of 1891. In each of the first fifteen weeks of the half year and in three of the later weeks the receipts fell below the amounts for the corresponding weeks of the year 1891, and in the remaining eight weeks the receipts exceeded those in the corresponding weeks of that year, the net result being

that the total receipts for the twenty-six weeks show a decrease of £51,647, or 3·4 per cent. as compared with the corresponding half of last year, the receipts for which period exceeded by £74,011 those for the first half of the year 1890.

Table VIII. gives some of the principal statistics for Irish Railways during the first half of each of the six years 1887-92, for comparison with the aggregate figures at foot of Table VII. for 1891-92.

TABLE VIII.—Railway Traffic Statistics, Ireland, for the first Twenty-six Weeks of each of the Years 1887-92.

Years.	Length of Lines open.	RECEIPTS FOR FIRST 26 WEEKS.			
		Total.	Increase or Decrease as compared with corresponding period in preceding year.		Average Receipts per Mile.
			Increase.	Decrease.	
	Miles.	£	£	£	£
1887	2,630	1,339,534	45,398	—	509
1888	2,672	1,328,027	—	11,507	497
1889	2,672	1,396,908	70,881	—	524
1890	2,667	1,436,636	37,728	—	539
1891	2,678	1,510,647	74,011	—	564
1892	2,678	1,459,000	—	51,647	545

From information kindly furnished by the Railway Department of the Board of Trade, it appears that the Authorized Capital of Irish Railways at the end of the year 1891 was £43,185,494; of which £30,682,297 was by Shares and Stocks, and £12,503,197 by Loans and Debenture Stock.

The paid-up Stock and Share Capital amounted to £27,279,272, consisting of £16,227,866 Ordinary, £2,833,568 Guaranteed, and £8,217,838 Preferential.

The Capital raised by Loans and Debenture Stock was £10,497,332, viz., £1,106,450 Loans, and £9,390,882 Debenture Stock; making a total of paid-up and borrowed Capital amounting to £37,776,604—which is at present the working capital of the Irish Railway system.

#### 6. *Shipping Returns.*

It appears from the following Table, IX., that the yearly average tonnage of vessels in foreign trade, which were *entered* in the Ports of Ireland during the ten years 1881-90 was 876,994; the highest was 1,008,757 in 1890, and the lowest, 771,574 in 1886; in 1891 the tonnage entered was 899,876, or 108,881 under the tonnage for 1890, and 22,882 above the average for the ten years, 1881-90. The average tonnage of vessels, in the coasting trade, entered in the Ports of Ireland during the decade 1881-90, was 5,190,649—but little variation occurring between any of those years; the tonnage entered, in 1891, was 5,496,463, being an increase of 309,245, as compared with the tonnage for 1890, and 305,814 more than the yearly average for the ten years 1881-90.

The average tonnage of vessels, in the foreign trade, *cleared* during the ten years 1881-90 was 374,424; the tonnage cleared\* in 1881 was 538,739; in 1891 it was only 232,946. The average tonnage of vessels, in the coasting trade, cleared during the ten years 1881-90 was 3,901,128; in 1891 it was 4,130,615, or 229,487 more than the average for the decade 1881-90, and 73,537 over the highest tonnage in any of these ten years.

A Table (X.) showing, for each of the Ports in Ireland, the number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared during the year 1891 is given on page 22.

\* See note (\*) on page 21.

TABLE IX.—Showing for each of the Years 1881-93, the Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared in the Ports of Ireland; and the Averages for the Ten Years 1881-90.

Years.	Imports.						Exports.					
	Foreign Trade (With Countries not included.)			Coasting Trade (With Countries not included.)			Foreign Trade (With Countries not included.)			Coasting Trade (With Countries not included.)		
	Tonnage.	Imports.	Exports.	Tonnage.	Imports.	Exports.	Tonnage.	Imports.	Exports.	Tonnage.	Imports.	Exports.
1881.	100,000	—	100,000	1,000,000	—	100,000	100,000	—	100,000	4,000,000	10,000	—
1882.	100,000	—	100,000	1,000,000	—	100,000	100,000	—	100,000	4,000,000	—	10,000
1883.	100,000	100,000	—	1,000,000	—	100,000	100,000	100,000	—	4,000,000	—	10,000
1884.	100,000	—	100,000	1,000,000	100,000	—	100,000	—	100,000	4,000,000	10,000	—
1885.	100,000	100,000	—	1,000,000	—	100,000	100,000	—	100,000	4,000,000	—	10,000
1886.	100,000	—	100,000	1,000,000	—	100,000	100,000	100,000	—	4,000,000	10,000	—
1887.	100,000	100,000	—	1,000,000	100,000	—	100,000	100,000	—	4,000,000	—	10,000
1888.	100,000	—	100,000	1,000,000	—	100,000	100,000	—	100,000	4,000,000	—	10,000
1889.	100,000	100,000	—	1,000,000	—	100,000	100,000	—	100,000	4,000,000	—	10,000
1890.	100,000	100,000	—	1,000,000	—	100,000	100,000	—	100,000	4,000,000	—	10,000
Average, 1881-90.	100,000	—	—	1,000,000	—	—	100,000	—	—	4,000,000	—	—
1891.	100,000	Increase amounted to 100,000	—	1,000,000	Increase amounted to 100,000	—	100,000	—	Increase amounted to 100,000	4,000,000	Increase amounted to 100,000	—

\* Vessels, for foreign trade, leaving the Ports of Ireland, to British India, South Africa, &c., have been taken as being for any other Port in the United Kingdom, are not shown.

TABLE X.—Showing the Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared in each of the Ports in Ireland during the Year 1891.

NAME OF PORT.	NUMBER and TONNAGE of VESSELS Entered and Cleared in the Ports in Ireland for the year ended 31st December, 1891.							
	ENTERED.				CLEARED.			
	Foreign Trade with Cargoes and in Ballast.		Coasting Trade with Cargoes only.		Foreign Trade with Cargoes and in Ballast.*		Coasting Trade with Cargoes only.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Belfast, . . .	413	232,501	9,060	1,755,129	122	22,234	5,371	1,389,164
Cork, . . .	177	111,183	2,542	682,741	69	24,111	1,600	437,735
Shibboreen, . .	12	4,583	369	41,418	10	3,917	186	19,685
Tralee, . . .	15	10,963	311	40,078	5	2,706	137	12,735
Dublin, . . .	431	270,491	4,123	1,475,297	123	70,405	4,132	1,032,561
Drogheda, . .	7	1,037	458	106,200	3	755	477	116,300
Galway, . . .	20	12,250	249	28,200	6	2,997	86	16,547
Limerick, . . .	68	63,240	492	92,883	23	9,386	268	61,129
Londonderry, . .	66	30,288	1,510	239,305	17	9,503	666	203,164
Coleraine, . . .	5	1,232	475	54,184	3	630	342	30,125
Newry, . . .	15	8,381	1,711	255,183	10	4,233	996	182,516
Dundalk, . . .	13	5,733	608	121,811	4	1,190	368	94,435
Sligo, . . .	27	26,372	547	57,702	6	2,367	415	45,483
Waterford, . . .	45	39,275	1,362	473,014	24	6,634	1,394	339,973
Wexford, . . .	5	1,909	754	73,834	4	925	275	39,732
Westport, . . .	11	11,369	233	26,430	4	1,001	385	19,690
Total, . . .	1,328†	890,876†	27,403	5,460,463	429†	232,048†	17,720	4,130,815

\* See Note (\*) on page 21.

† Of the vessels inwards with cargoes from foreign, 394 with a tonnage of 106,886 discharged only part cargo; and of the vessels outwards with cargoes for foreign, 23 with a tonnage of 13,709 were only partially loaded.

In conclusion, I have to return my thanks to the Authorities of the various Joint Stock Banks of Ireland, and of the Post Office Savings Bank Department; the Comptroller-General of the National Debt Office; the Governor of the Bank of Ireland; the Chairmen and Directors of the several Railway Companies; and the Statistical Department of the Board of Customs, for the valuable information which they so promptly afforded in connexion with the compilation of these Statistics for your Excellency.

I have the honour to remain,

Your Excellency's faithful servant,

THOMAS W. GRIMSHAW,

*Registrar-General.*

GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE,

CHARLEMONT HOUSE,

*Dublin, 3rd August, 1892.*

DUBLIN CASTLE,

20th August, 1892.

SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, forwarding, for submission to their Excellencies the Lords Justices, the Report of the Banking, Railway, and Shipping Statistics, Ireland (June, 1892).

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

WEST RIDGEWAY.

The Registrar-General,

Charlemont House,

Rutland-square.

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DUBLIN: Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office,  
BY ALEX. THOM & CO. (Limited), 57, 58, & 59, Abbey-street,  
The Queen's Printing Office.